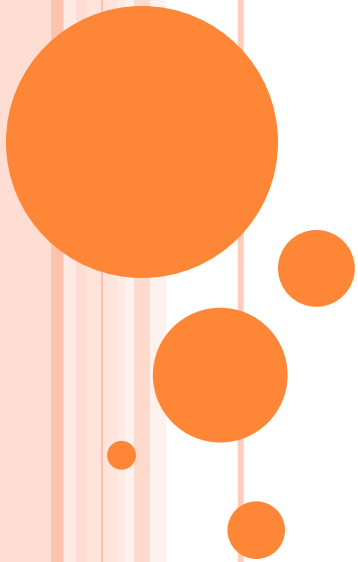


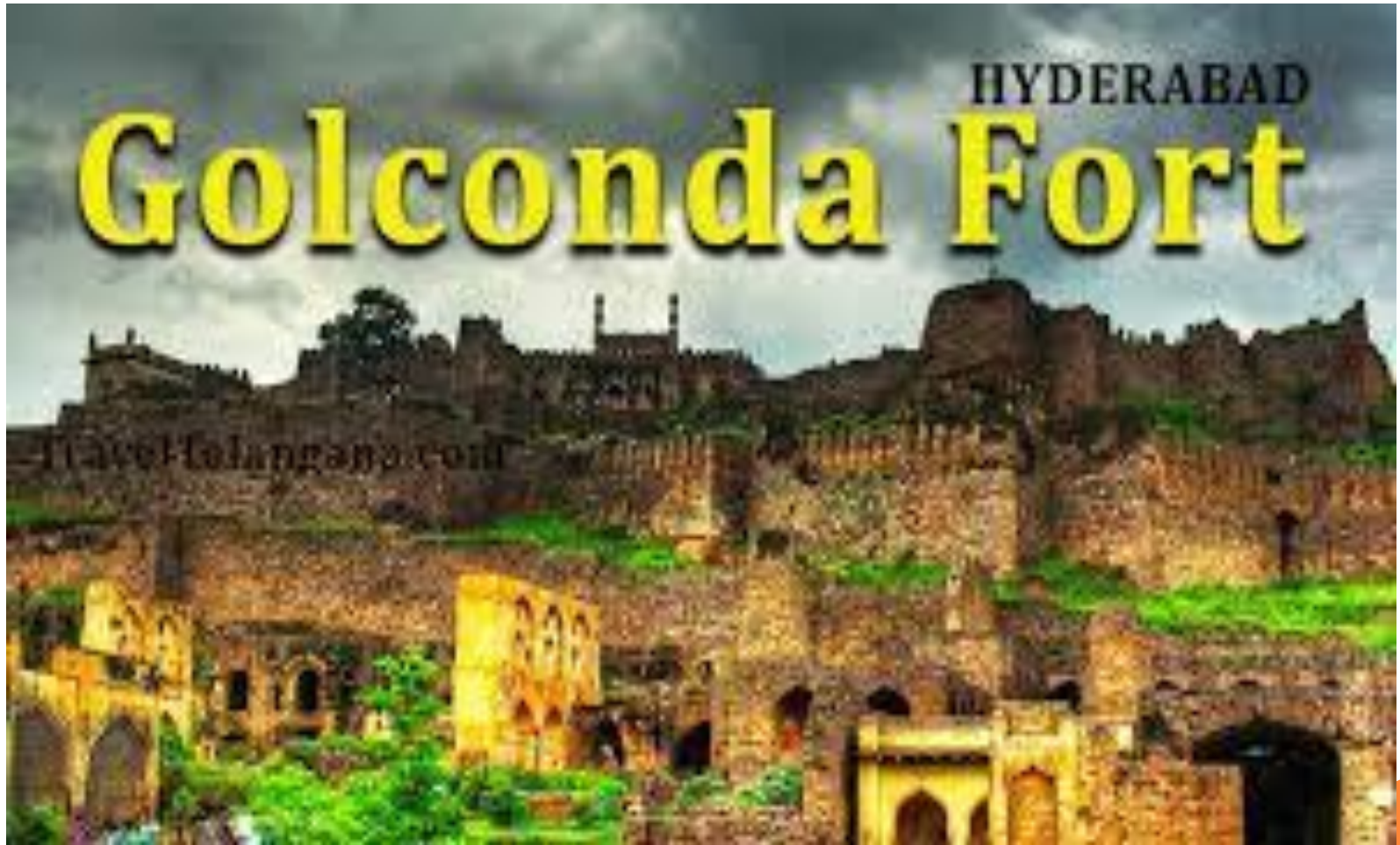
WALLS TELL STORIES



HISTORICAL MONUMENTS



GOLCONDA FORT



HISTORY OF GOLCONDA FORT

- 400 year old majestic and imposing Golconda fort is situated on the western outskirts of Hyderabad city.
- The fort was built by the Kakatiya dynasty in the 13th century.
- The city and the fortress were built on a granite hill that is 120 meters(390ft) high, surrounded by massive battlements.



STORY BEHIND GOLCONDA FORT

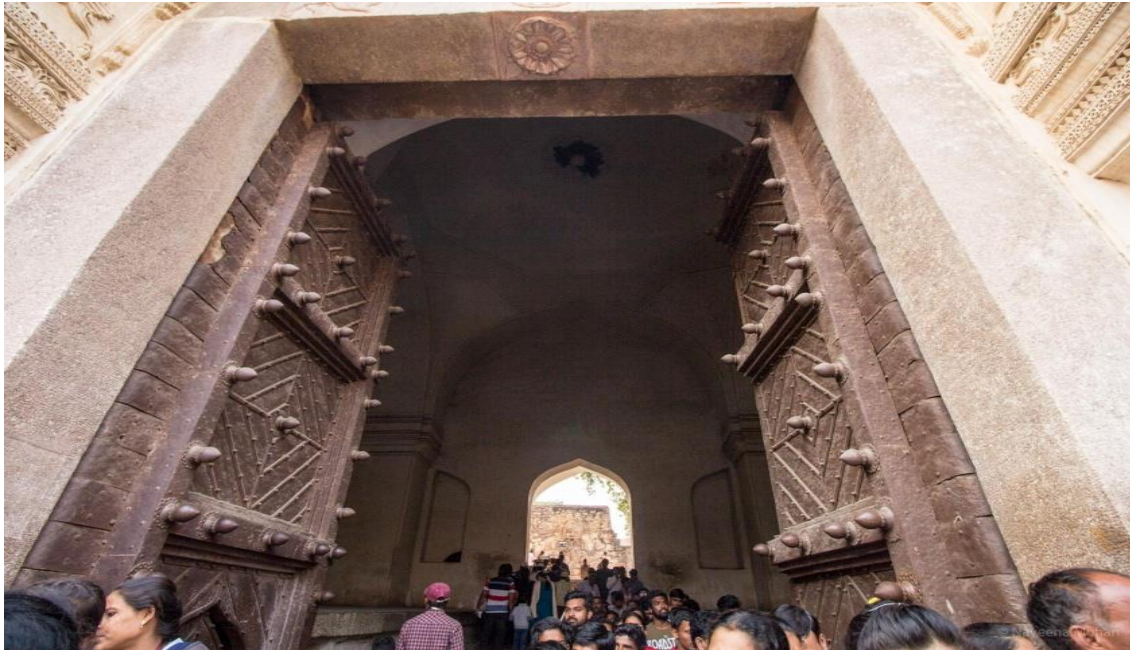
- One day a shepherd boy came across an idol on the rocky hill, which was called Mangalavaram. The news was conveyed to the ruling Kakatiya king. The king got a mud fort constructed around the holy spot and his descendents continued to follow this trend.
- Later, the Golconda fort came into the possession of the Bahmani dynasty. Still Later, the Qutub Shahi dynasty took over and made Golconda its capital.



ARCHITECTURE OF THE FORT

- Golconda fort is a grand structure built on a hill of altitude 400ft with a circumference of 7km displaying the beautiful fusion of hindu-islamic style of architecture.
- Its wall comprises of 8 gates and 87 bastions each one reaching the height of 50-60 feet.
- There are three powerful consecutive fortification walls each within the other.





GATE OF THE GOLCONDA FORT

The gate itself was made of thick wood into which long iron spikes had been driven.

The spikes were sharp on the end to make it impossible for an elephant to push the gate open.

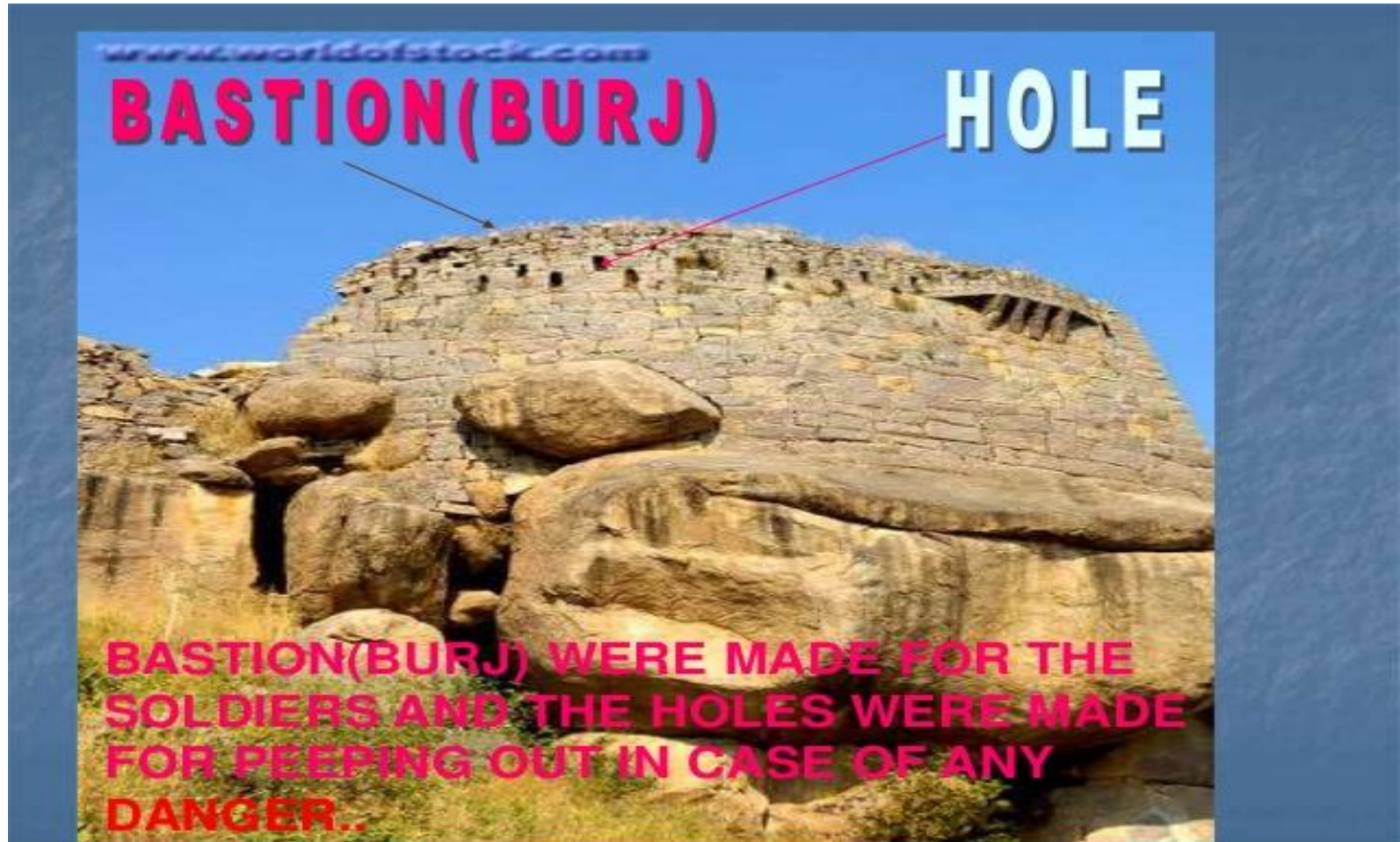
If an elephant tried, the iron spikes would go right into its face and hurt it.

The small gate made in a big gate of the fort was called needle's eye.

Only one person at a time can enter through it.



BASTION (BURJ)



ABOUT BASTIONS IN GOLCONDA FORT

- High round shaped parts coming out of the fort wall is called a bastion.
- Bastions were made in the fort wall to see at a distance and attack on enemies coming towards the fort from several directions.
- The rounded and high walls are also called defensive walls.
- Big holes were made in them to watch and shot at enemies from a distance, keeping the soldiers safe.



INSIDE THE GOLCONDA FORT

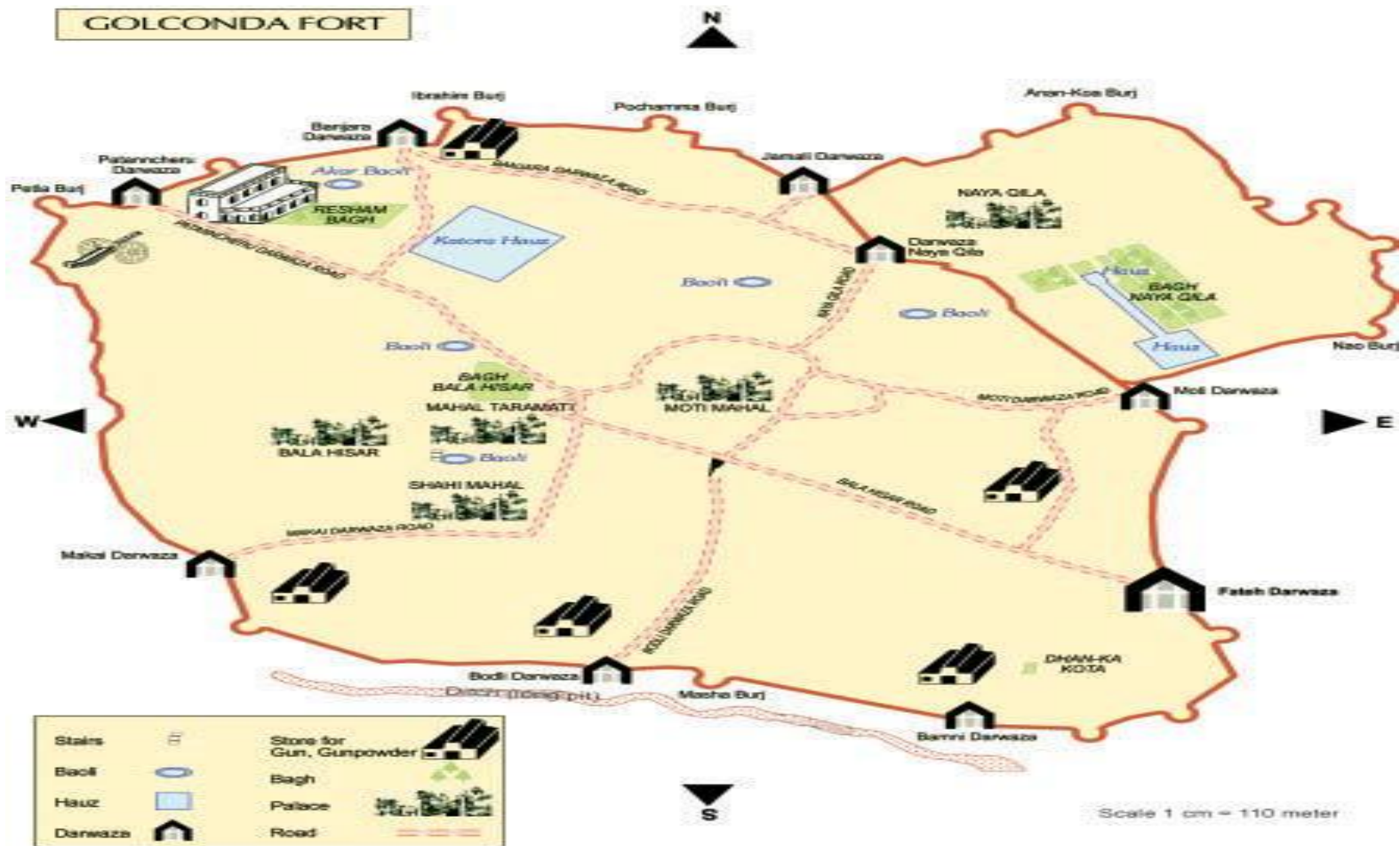
- Qutubshahi Sultans ruled here one after another, from 1518-1687.
- There are so many gardens, fields, factories and many palaces also inside the fort.
- Even in those days they used to have buildings with two floors.
- There are beautiful carvings on the walls.
- There are many big tanks and fountains here. They used to be full of water.



A BEAUTIFUL CARVINGS ON THE WALL



MAP OF GOLCONDA FORT



CANNONS AND GUNS IN GOLCONDA FORT

- Burj are strategically placed platforms on which cannons are placed
- During the seige of 1687, the cannons placed atop the bastions provided massive artillery support which prevented the Mughal army from entering the fort for 8 months.
- The cannons placed on semi circular bastions were of various sizes and fire power capacity.
- Aurangzeb's full army came with their guns and cannons to attack but they could not even enter the fort. For eight months they camped outside the fort.

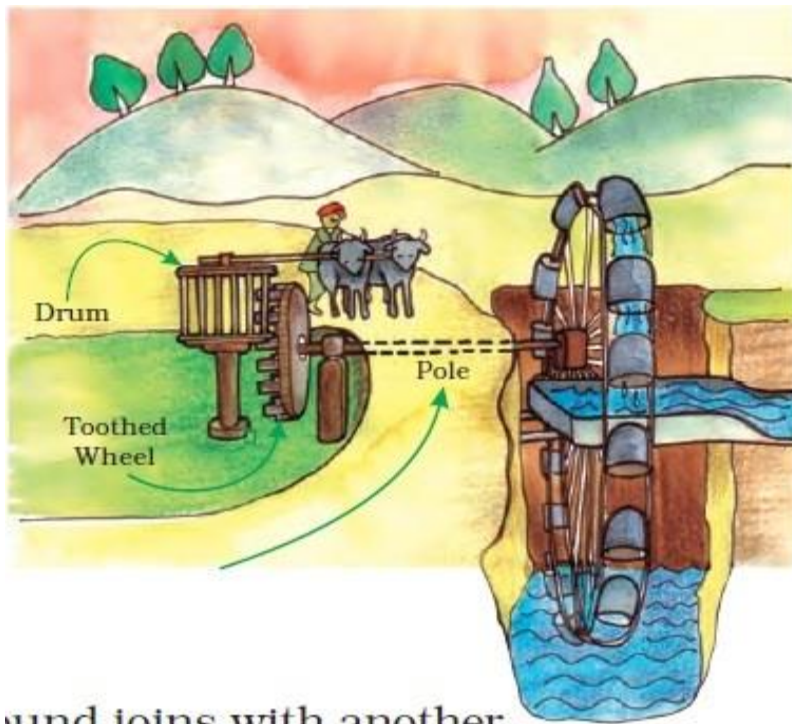




ARRANGEMENTS FOR WATER IN GOLCONDA FORT

- There are five palaces in the fort. There are tanks (hauz) and step wells (baoli) as arrangements for water inside the fort.
- The bullocks move the drum, which in turn moves the toothed wheel. From this wheel garland wheel is connected through a rod. So as the toothed wheel moves, it rotates the garland wheel and thus water is lifted from the well.
- The clay pipes in the walls of the fort used to carry water to different places in the palace.





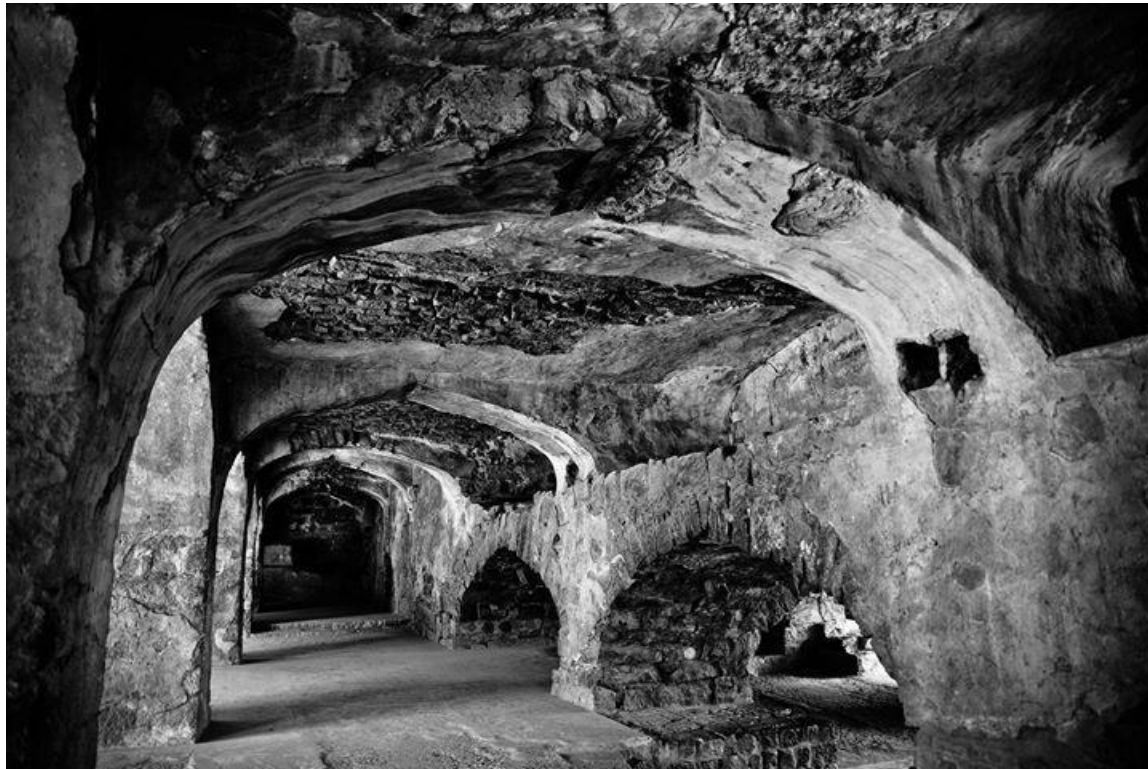
and joins with another



ARCHES IN GOLCONDA FORT

- The **arches** of the **fort** were the medium through which acoustic was **created**. These helped an army commander to know what the sentry was doing. The architects knew the facet of sound **echo** as well as amplification. They use material such as clay pots and pans for construction. These had been blended with hardcore building material, such as stone. Construction of the **fort**.
- The clapping portico in Golconda Fort is a series of arches on one side, each smaller than the preceding one. So a sound wave generated under the dome would get compression and then bounce back amplified enough to reach a considerable distance.
- Arches are called as Mehrab.





FATEH DARWAZA IN GOLCONDA FORT



- It is said that the sound of clapping hands at Fateh Darwaza can be heard clearly at “Bala Hissar”, the highest point situated about 1km away in Golconda fort



Fatte darwaja



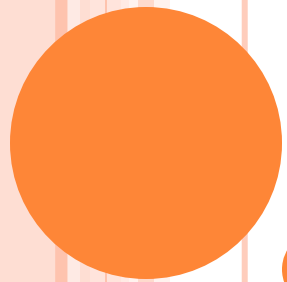
INNER VIEWS OF GOLCONDA FORT



IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING MONUMENTS

- India is a country with a deep manifested past. Her rich cultural heritage has kept everyone in a maze. All the states in India have some or the other cultural history. Thus, each and every citizens in India has the responsibility to protect the historical monuments in India.
- Even in Golconda fort proper instructions have been written to keep the fort safe and hygeine.





THANK YOU

By Jishakumari T J